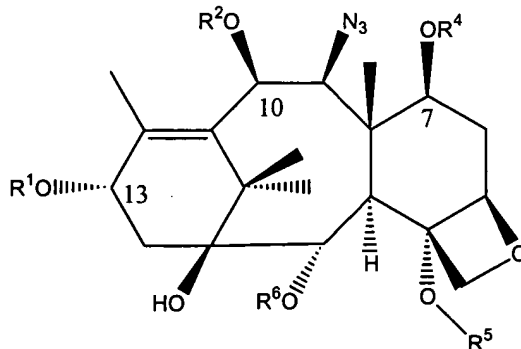


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A compound of the formula



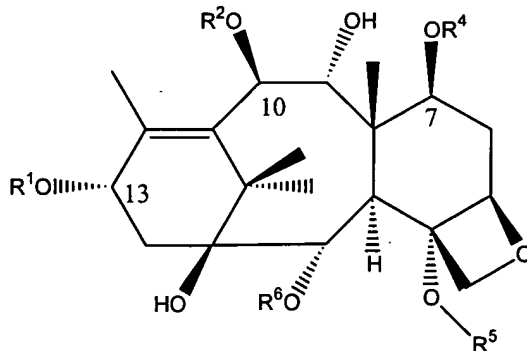
wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

2. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 each represent a hydroxyl protecting group.

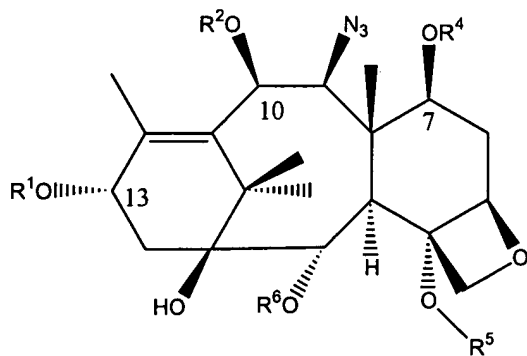
3. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein each of R^1 , R^2 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 is, independently at each location, formyl, acetyl, dichloroacetyl, propionyl, isopropionyl, pivalyl, trimethylsilyl, triethylsilyl, triisopropylsilyl, dimethylisopropylsilyl, diethylisopropylsilyl, tert-butyldimethylsilyl, methyldiphenylsilyl, dimethylphenylsilyl, tert-butyldiphenylsilyl, tribenzylsilyl, triphenylsilyl, trichloroethoxycarbonyl, benzyl, para-nitrobenzyl, para-methoxybenzyl, benzoyl, t-butyloxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, methoxymethyl, methoxyethyl, ethoxyethyl, para-methoxyphenyl, tetrahydropyranyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, alkylsulfonyl or arylsulfonyl.

4. (Original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R^1 is acetyl, R^2 is acetyl, R^4 is a hydroxyl protecting group, R^5 is acetyl, and R^6 is benzoyl.

5. (Original) A method comprising reacting a compound of the formula



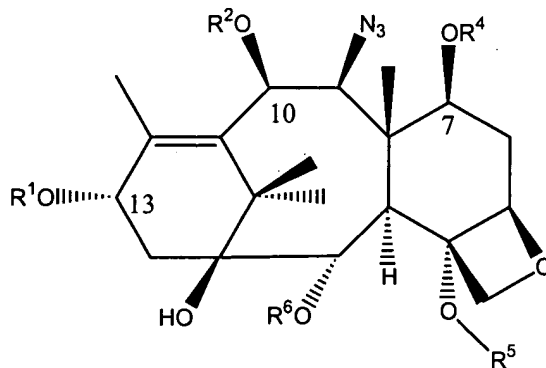
by a Mitsunobu displacement reaction using an azide compound, so as to provide a compound of the formula



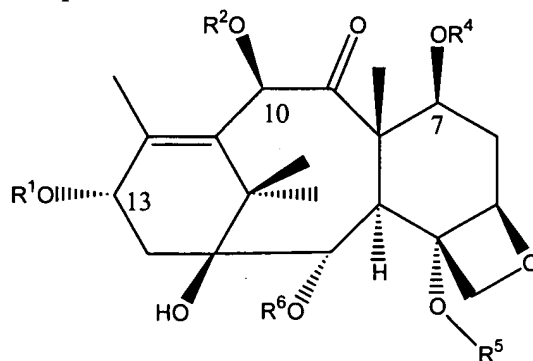
wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) A process comprising oxidizing a compound of the formula



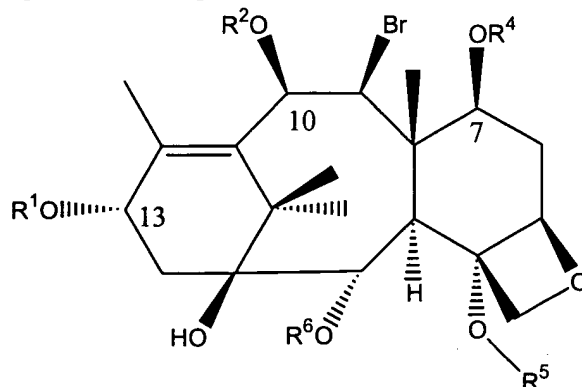
to provide a compound of the formula



wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 each represent a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

8. (Original) The process of claim 7 wherein the azide is converted to a carbonyl compound by using an alkoxide in THF, most preferably either LiOMe or NaOMe followed by acidic hydrolysis.

9. (Original) A compound of the formula



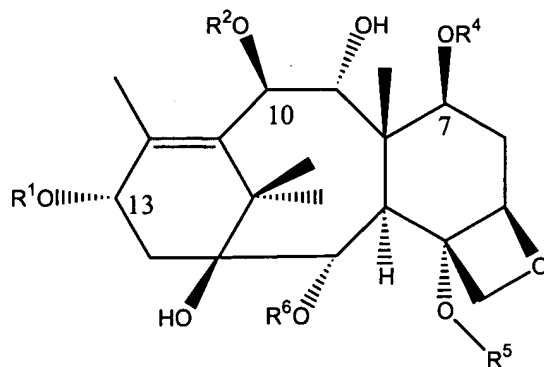
wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

10. (Original) The compound of claim 9 wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^5 and R^6 each represent a hydroxyl protecting group, and R^4 is hydrogen.

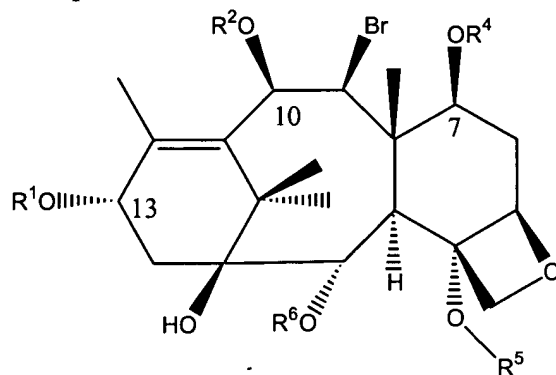
11. (Original) The compound of claim 9 wherein each of R^1 , R^2 , R^5 and R^6 is, independently at each location, formyl, acetyl, dichloroacetyl, propionyl, isopropionyl, pivalyl, trimethylsilyl, triethylsilyl, triisopropylsilyl, dimethylisopropylsilyl, diethylisopropylsilyl, tert-butyl dimethylsilyl, methyldiphenylsilyl, dimethylphenylsilyl, tert-butyl diphenylsilyl, tribenzylsilyl, triphenylsilyl, trichloroethoxycarbonyl, benzyl, para-nitrobenzyl, para-methoxybenzyl, benzoyl, t-butyloxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl, methoxymethyl, methoxyethyl, ethoxyethyl, para-methoxyphenyl, tetrahydropyranyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, alkylsulfonyl or arylsulfonyl.

12. (Original) The compound of claim 9 wherein R^1 is acetyl, R^2 is acetyl, R^4 is hydrogen, R^5 is acetyl, and R^6 is benzoyl.

13. (Original) A process comprising bromination of a compound of the formula



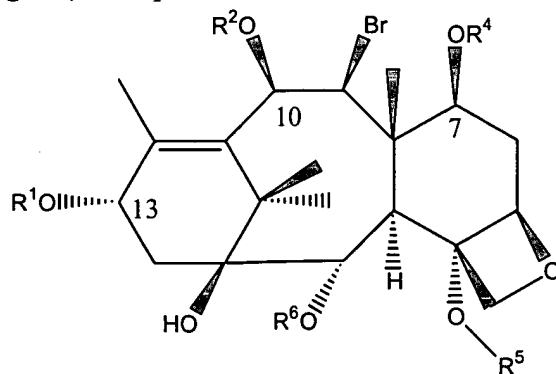
to provide a compound of the formula



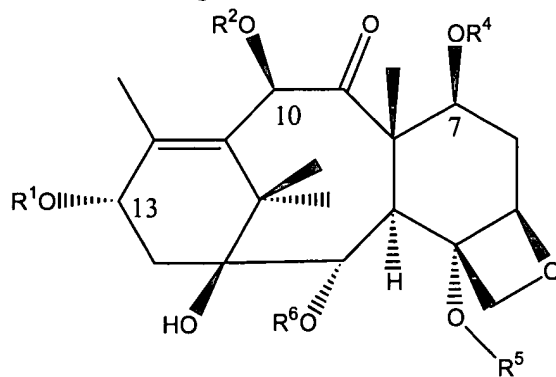
wherein R¹, R², R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

14. (Original) The process of claim 13 wherein the bromination comprises use of a brominating agent.

15. (Original) The process of claim 13 wherein the compound of the formula

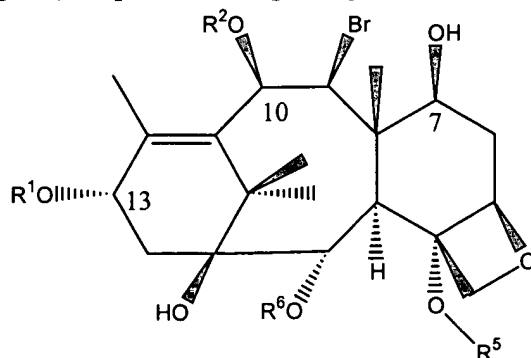


is in admixture with a compound of formula

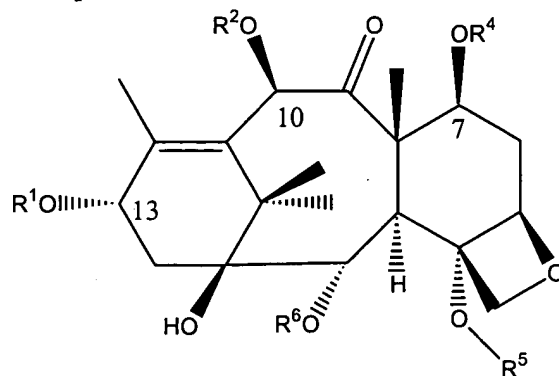


wherein R¹, R², R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

16. (Original) A process comprising oxidation of a compound of the formula



to provide a compound of the formula

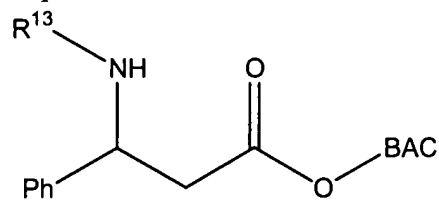


wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 each represent hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, independently selected at each location.

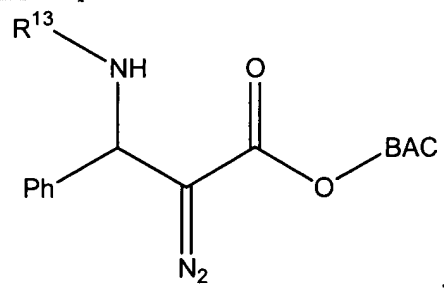
17. (Original) The process of claim 16 wherein a bromide is converted to an azide and the azide is converted to a carbonyl.

18.-36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended) ~~The process of claims 35 and 36~~ A process comprising treating a starting compound of the formula

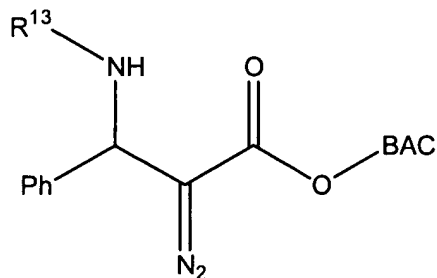


wherein R^{13} represents hydrogen or an amine protecting group, under diazotiation conditions, to provide a product compound of the formula

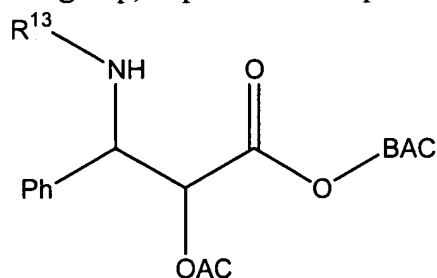


wherein the diazotiation conditions comprise tosyl azide and at least base selected from triethylamine and diazobicycloundecane.

38. (Original) A process comprising treating a compound of the formula

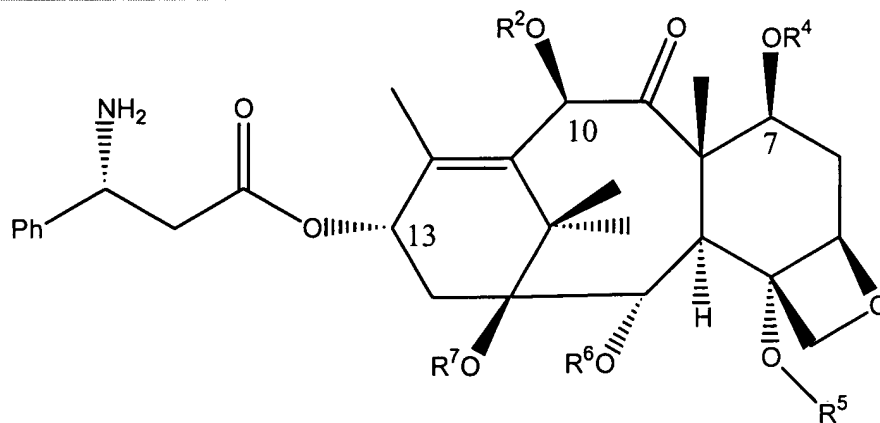


where R^{13} is hydrogen or an amine protecting group, under conditions that convert a diazo group to an acetate group, to provide a compound of the formula

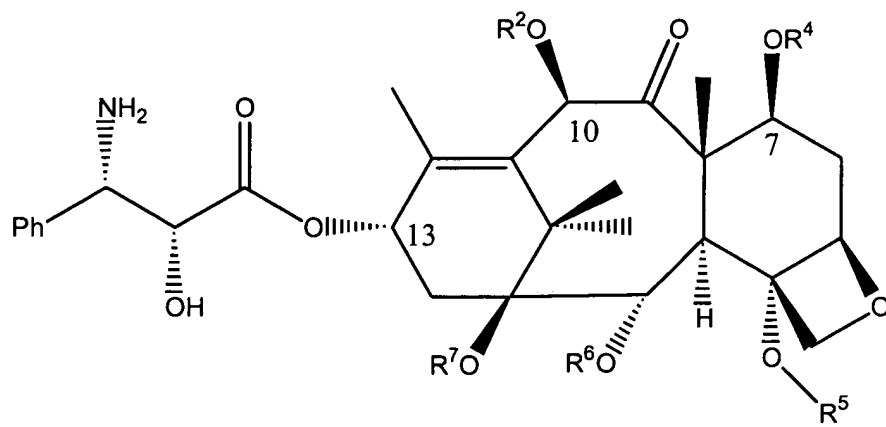


39.-50. (Cancelled)

51. (Currently Amended) A process comprising enolate oxidation of a starting compound of the formula



to provide a product compound of the formula



wherein R² is a hydroxyl protecting group, R⁴ is hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group, R⁵ is a hydroxyl protecting group, R⁶ is a hydroxyl protecting group, and R⁷ is hydrogen or a hydroxyl protecting group. ~~The process of claim 49 wherein the starting compound is exposing—exposed to oxidizing conditions comprising potassium hexamethyldisilazide and a molybdenum compound.~~

52.-58. (Cancelled)